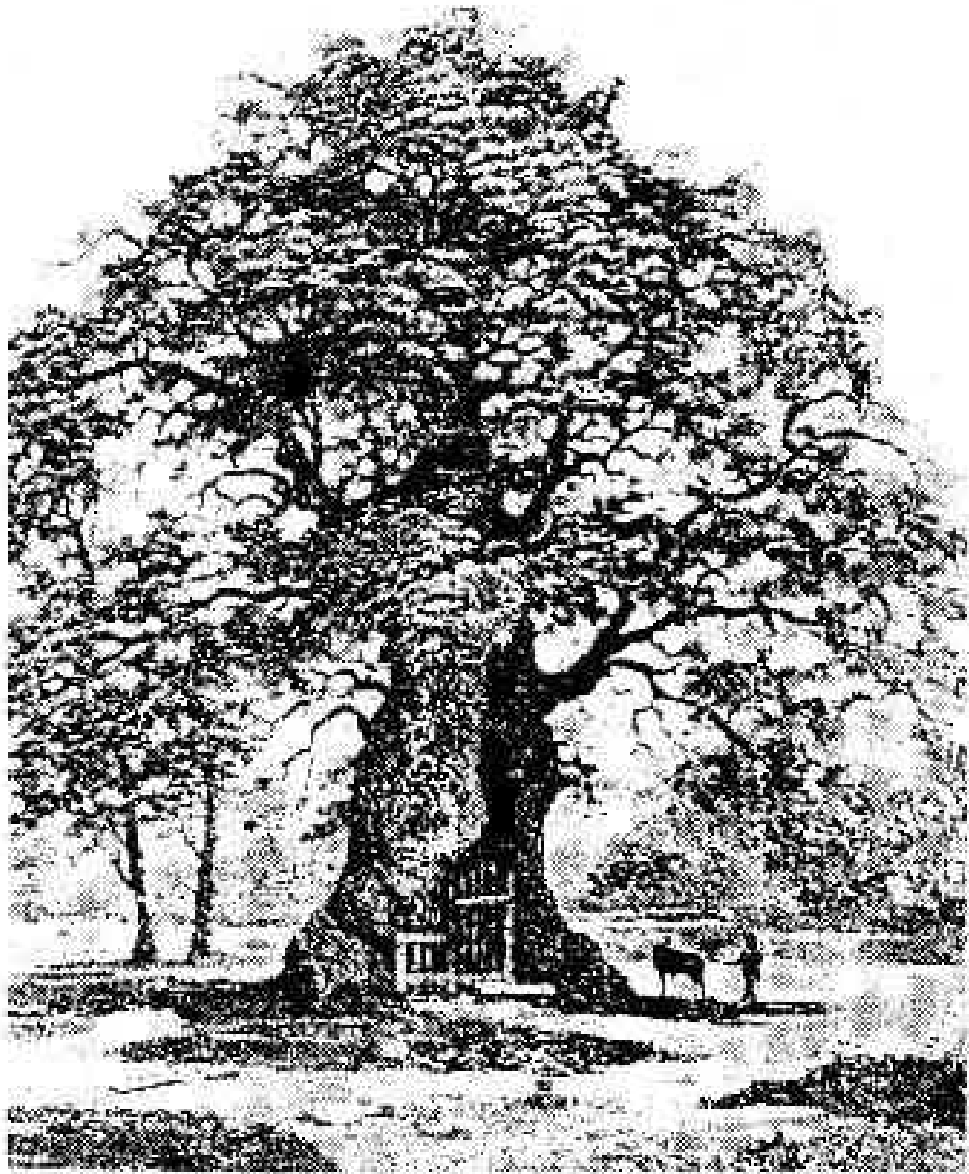


Belgian Laces



“Le Gros-Chêne”, the Old Oak Tree, around 1875 – from a painting by Auguste Barbier
http://ibelgique.iframe.com/arbresdumonde/chene_set.htm

BELGIAN LACES

ISSN 1046-0462

Official Quarterly Bulletin of
THE BELGIAN RESEARCHERS
Belgian American Heritage Association
Founded in 1976

Our principal objective is:

Keep the Belgian Heritage alive in our hearts and in the hearts of our posterity

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Dues to THE BELGIAN RESEARCHERS with subscription to BELGIAN LACES

Are:

In the US	\$12.00 a year
In Canada	\$12.00 a year in US funds
Other Countries	\$14.00 a year in US funds

Subscribers in Europe, please add US \$4.00 if you wish to receive your magazine per airmail.
All subscriptions are for the calendar year. New subscribers receive the four issues of the current year, regardless when paid.

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Reformatted 2005 - ISSN 1554-2432

La Grande, November 1995
Dear Members,

The year is running on its last legs; the winter came early here in the Pacific Northwest since October already we have good stiff night frosts; and, ... as the Holidays are only weeksaway, let us wish you all a very happy Thanksgiving and Christmas with family and friends followed by a prosperous and healthy New Year !

It has been a good year for **The Belgian Researchers**. We welcomed 78 new members; our newsletter grew from 16 to 20 pages of information; we have a new and active chapter in the Northwest; we have several items for sale to our members (windsocks \$15 ea., Belgo-American Flag pins \$3 ea., bumper stickers sale price \$3 ea.) and last but certainly not least, Pierre is recuperating marvelously from his hip surgery. We want to thank those of you who knew about his ordeal for cards and flowers, telephone calls and e. mail ... It all made Pierre feel like a king and helped to keep his spirits up during those first difficult weeks.

Again, this issue of Belgian Laces is loaded with information where many of you, we hope, will be able to find some names you needed for the longest time. Besides these lists of names, we received several very interesting contributions from members. Thank you all and *keep those articles and letters coming. Pierre and I love them!*

We received a very interesting and valuable addition to our library. **Mary Verslype** (Mishawaka, In) donated her husband's research material and books. We thank Mary for this donation, and wish her the courage and strength needed to face the near future. We send our dear long-standing member **Henry Verslype** all our admiration and love. (See "Member Portrait" in this issue.)

Please take note : as of November 5, our telephone and fax area code has been changed from 503 to 541. This means that our telephone number now is:

Tel. (541) 963 6697 Fax (541) 962 7604

With the end of the year, comes also the renewal of your membership for 1996. We want to remind our new members, that their membership also ends with this issue and that the membership for 1996 is due **NOW!** Please be prompt in your payments, not only to keep our organization solvable, but also to keep our computer mailing lists up-to-date. This allows us to mail as many Laces as possible at bulk rate. Any late payments and late mailings mean individual mailing costs of \$.78 per issue when we have to mail them at in-between-publication periods. Please, check your mailing labels: if there is a * next to your membership number, this means you have paid for 1996. If not, your payment is due and will be very much appreciated.

Thank you for your cooperation!

That's all for now. Pierre joins me in wishing you all a very blessed and joyous Christmas and a happy and healthy 1996.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- 603. Daryl Deleau - Sanford, NC
- 604. Carol Page - Rockland, MA
- 605. Gary Keeter - New York, NY
- 606. Bernard Volant - Brussels, Belgium
- 607. Lawrence Kelbey - Rio Rancho, NM
- 608. Darrel Cole - Auburn Hills, MI
- 609. Albertine De Prost - Hillsboro, OR
- 610. Marvin Courtright - Sacramento, CA
- 611. Theresa Brichart Jackson - Louisville, KY
- 612. Stella Dalebroux - Luxemburg, WI
- 613. Philippe Bogaerts - Buffalo Grove, IL
- 614. Elisabeth Stebbings - Spooner, WI

DID YOU KNOW ?

...that a 17th Century Flemish Jesuit built first automobile?

The Historical Committee of the Society of Automobile Engineers has made a presentation which might interest our readers. It was titled "The Oldest Precursor of the Automobile - **Ferdinand VERBIEST**'s Steam Turbine-Powered Vehicle Model" by Horst Hardenberg of Daimler-Benz AG. Ferdinand Verbiest (1623-1688) was a Jesuit Missionary in China and was head of the observatory in Peking.

In the late 1670's he built a working model of a steam-powered vehicle he demonstrated at the Chinese Imperial court.

Charles Duryea, inventor of one of the first automobiles in the United States, reportedly produced with his brother Frank the first automobile in 1893, over 200 years later than Father Verbiest. Duryea knew about Father Verbiest's work.

So for good or ill, some of the responsibility for the automobile lies at the feet of the Catholic clergy and the Jesuits. (by Jack Talbot, in "The Catholic Sentinel" Sept 1995.)

...that we learn

10% of what we read

20% of what we hear

30% of what we see

50% of what we both see and hear

70% of what is discussed with others

80% of what we experience personally

95% of what we teach someone else.

... that Belgium is regarded in a number of surveys as among the top location for US. high-tech business in Europe. Especially for aerospace, telematics, medical technology, office automation and biotechnology.

... that Belgium more than doubled its share of US. investment. it rose from \$660 million in 1993 to \$1.6 billion in 1994. US. trade with Belgium in 1994 showed a trade surplus of \$4.5 billion - the third highest worldwide and close on the heels of the Netherlands and Australia.

... that Belgium exports about 70% of its GDP (Gross Domestic Product). By comparison, the US exports in 1994 amounted to 7.3% as reported by the US commerce department..

... that the FIOC (the Flanders Investment Office) recently announced major expansion in the US. It is opening new offices in Chicago and Dallas, to complement its already existing offices in Boston and San Francisco. The Chicago office will be headed by **Hugo Bloque** ; the Dallas office by **Justin Ceelen**. FIOC's primary task is to attract foreign investment into and trade with Flanders.

... that Americans, who have to live abroad for their jobs assignments about an average of 7 years, feel best at home in Belgium. Our country of origin is most popular because of its respectful and friendly service personnel, good business management and ... its national gastronomy! Comfortable

housing, excellent recreation facilities and pleasant "way of life" contribute to this accolade.

... that the Belgians are the largest credit takers in Europe with an average of 90.000 Bfrs (or about \$3000)

This figure does not include real estate. No other European country 's citizens run up higher debts.

... that the Belgian Cardinal Mercier laid the corner stone for the Sacred Heart Church in Moline, Ill, in 1919

... that Belgians consume the most calories per person? According to an unnamed publication in an unidentified paper clipping found in H. Verslype's many clippings, the Belgians have a daily intake of 3,645 calories. And no wonder, notes this unidentified article, considering not only Belgian chocolate, Belgian beer and Belgian butter, but that the favorite Belgian snack is French fries dipped in mayonnaise.

PORTRAIT: DON J. DALEBROUX:

Based on an article by Katy Muldoon from The Oregonian (February 1995) in a rubric called My Workout, where readers share their secrets to success

Remember, when I wrote in my Editor's letter in Laces # 62 1995-1, that someone had followed us for several miles, because we sport a B for Belgium on our car? and that this chance encounter at the service station had resulted in a string of new members in the Portland area? - Well, a few weeks after Martha Blommaert signed up , she sent us a newspaper clipping about a certain "guy" who does "step-aerobics" at the Griffith Park Athletic Club in Beaverton, Oregon. "So, what's so special about that?" - you may think. - Well, besides the fact that he is the only man in two all-women step aerobic classes, which takes guts and is worthy of mention, he also is a Belgian, who proudly advertises his heritage on his business card. It simply says:

Don Dalebroux - a Belgian.

I suppose you can well imagine how I reacted to such a message: after getting nowhere through the telephone directory assistance, I contacted friends in Tigard (where Don lives) who quickly were able to give me the address I needed. To make a long story short: Don was very surprised to learn that in La Grande, Oregon there was an organization that addressed itself exclusively to Belgians, and he joined **The Belgian Researchers**.

Don Dalebroux grew up on a farm in Wisconsin. After college and a stint in the Army, he accepted a job in the West and moved to Oregon. He and his wife Laverne have seven children, ages 25-37 and 11 grandchildren. Don and Laverne like to golf and regularly travel back to the Midwest to visit their relatives - "a whole passel of Belgians". Through him , his cousins **Dennis** and **Joan Paye** from West Lynn, Oregon as well as his mother **Stella Dalebroux** in Luxemburg, WI. became Belgian Researchers. We had the great pleasure of meeting in person Don and Laverne as well as Dennis and Joan, and their children at the Belgian BBQ in Boring on August 6th and we hope that the opportunity to meet again will present itself in the not too distant future.

Le Vieux Chêne de Liernu

by Leen Inghels

After publishing pictures and stories about three Romanesque churches in Belgium, each about 800 to 900 years old, I stumbled onto a picture of the magnificent oak tree on the front cover of this issue of Laces. This tree dates from a period even older than the churches ... So, I figured that for the last issue of our newsletter which in 1995 featured remnants of medieval Belgium, the old tree deserved its place.

Liernu is a small village on a creek by the same name, north of Namur, and is now part of Eghezee.

This oak tree is the most remarkable tree in Belgium. Even its scientific name is impressive: *Quercus robur* L. - *Q. Pedunculata* Ehrh. It is a known fact that oak trees are notorious for their slow growth. The trunk of "our" tree has a circumference of about 45 feet at ground level; of about 35 feet at 30 feet; a diameter of 60 feet in the crown for a total height of good 60 feet. A robust stocky fellow, with an estimated age of at least 1000 years, which continues to vigorously and happily produce acorns at a rate and volume of a spruce young'en.

Its origins are situated somewhere between Charlemagne (800 AD) and the 10th century. Long long time ago, the tree was hit by lightning, partially decapitating it and splitting it clear down to the ground. It looks like the trunk is held together by some kind of tree house, which probably serves as a roof, protecting its trunk from more severe damage caused by rain.

Oak trees have always played an important role in social and religious life in Western Europe. It is known that the Druids conducted their rites in Oak tree groves. The Druids were priests, teachers, magicians and sorcerers in ancient Gaul, Britain and Ireland. They possessed some knowledge of geometry; they superintended the affairs of religion and morality and performed the office of judges. The myth of the sanctity of the oak tree goes back through the ages a long long way, probably because of its own capacity of survival and strength. The mistletoe, which was used as well in religious rites conducted by the Druids, also grows on the oak tree, and does not seem to damage it as it does other "host trees". We still honor the mistletoe around the holidays; we bring it in the house in the hope that by its magic powers that special someone will notice us!

The *Vieux Chêne de Liernu* too served multiple purposes: in Old Belgium's Dark Ages already, local lords delivered justice while sitting under its shading branches. But besides offering shade to the local magistrates it certainly was a welcome resting place for the many foreign armies that criss-crossed Belgium throughout its history. Local "folk" too profited from the tree: at a time when the roads were not paved, and the abundant Belgian rains made these muddy stretches difficult to navigate, branches were cut off to fill the holes and ruts to help the farmers, merchants and travelers along their way.

By Royal decree on April 4 1939, the tree was classified a historical site for its artistic, archeological and historic value.

In 1978 local people organized 'The Brotherhood of the Great-Oak of Liernu' : its first and foremost duty : to safeguard the old tree and to enhance its visibility, which the "brethren" have done without mincing efforts. Festivities honoring "Le Vieux Chêne" are organized each year, on the last Sunday in June.

The oak tree of Liernu has a brother: the oak tree of Allouville in Normandy, France. The villages of Hiernu and Allouville are sister-cities, and *The Brotherhood of the Great-Oak of Liernu* 's twin brother is the *Brotherhood of the Acorn of Allouville* ! And that is the story of the old oak free!

A GOLD MINE of DATA from the WAASLAND !

One of our members in Belgium, Georges **PICAVET**, is preparing a study of the emigration from the Waasland area of Belgium (East Flanders) to the United States and Canada between the years 1830 and 1950. He is looking for anyone whose ancestors (or self?) came from this area. Georges developed a questionnaire to assist those who will be participating in the project. This study will result in the publication of a book relating the emigrants' individual stories, set in the framework of social history with a local focus.

Georges **PICAVET** writes:

I am interested to correspond with people who:

- are doing research for their own family or families;

- originate from the Waasland;

- are interested to systematically research sources, which are likely to mention the place of origin of the immigrants, such as: naturalization documents, in memoriam cards, obituaries, marriage records, etc.

It is well understood that if you can help me find what I am researching, on my part I can also help in documenting what others have missing in this same area.

You can address your replies and requests directly to **Georges Picavet, Doom 9, B-9150-KRUIBEKE. BELGIUM** or send them to **The Belgian Researchers** with mention: *for Georges Picavet*, we will forward. You can help in this research and by the same token help yourself to find the missing link in your family tree!

Following, please find an alphabetical, albeit incomplete list of family names, as well as a list of the villages and cities where the data were collected.

LIST OF VILLAGES AND CITIES IN THIS RESEARCH

BAZEL - BELSELE - BEVEREN - BURCHT - DAKNAM - DE KLINGE - DOEL - EKSAARDE - ELVERSELE - HAASDONK - KALLO - KEMZEKE - KIELDRECHT - KRUIBEKE - LOKEREN - MEERDONK - MELSELE - MOERBEKE - NIEUWKERKEN - RUPELMONDE - SINAAI - SINT GILLIS - SINT NIKLAAS - SINT PAUWELS - STEENDOAP - STEKENE - TEMSE - TIELRODE - VERREBROEK - VRASENE - WAASMUNSTER - ZWINDRECHT.

Family Names of Emigrants from the Waasland to the US - (Incomplete list)

This list includes the maiden names of wives. Names marked with an * are alternative spellings in the US.
Also, certain names may have lost the Van or De.

A	DE	E	MIDDAY	THOMAS	VAN LANCKER
ADRIAENSSENS	DE BACKER	EECKELAERT	MINGEROET	TILLEMANN	VAN LANDEGHEM
ANDRIES	DE BAERE	F	MORTIER	TILLENS	VAN LINDEN
APERS	DE BAKKER	FERMURTHEL	MUL	TILLMAN	VAN MELE
AUDENAERDE	DE BERGÉ	FIERENS	N	TIMMERMANS	VAN MEYGROOT
AUDENAERT	DE BEUKELAER	FRANCK	NELIS	V	VAN MIEGHEM
B	DE BEULE	FRANSSSENS	NIMMEGEER	VAEL	VAN MULLEM
BAERT	DE BOCK	FRISSYN	NONNEMAN	VENNE	VAN NOEI
BAETENS	DE BOEY	FRUYTIER	O	VISCHPOEL	VAN NOIE
BARBIEUR	DE BOT	G	ONGHENA	VLAEMINCK	VAN OPPENS
BATENS	DE BRUIN	GILLIS	OOSTERLING	VOET	VAN OVERLOOP
BATS	DE BRUYN	GODDAERT	OPSOMER	VONCK	VAN OVERMEIRE
BAUS	DE CALUWAERT	GOEMAN	P	VAN	VAN PEYMBROOK
BAUWENS	DE CALUWE	GYSELINCK	PALING	VAN ACHE	VAN PEYMBROECK
BAYENS	DE CAUWER	H	PASSEMIER	VAN ACKER	VAN PUYMBROECK
BECK	DE CLARK	HEIRBAUT	PAULUS	VAN AELST	VAN PUYMBROUCK
BEELDENS	DE CLEENE	HEIRMAN	PAUWELS	VAN AKEN	VAN RANST
BILDINGS	DE CLERCK	HENDRICKX	PEETERS	VAN BOGAERT	VAN REMOORTELT
BILDUS	DE CLERCQ	HERMANS	PENNEMAN	VAN BOGGET	VAN REMOORTERE
BLEYENBERG	DE COCK	HERREMAN	PERSYN	VAN BRANDT	VAN ROSSEM
BLOMMAERT	DE CONINCK	HERREWEYERS	PETERS	VAN CAMPENHOUT	VAN ROY
BOEL	DE COOK	HEYMAN	PICAVET	VAN CANSINCK	VAN STAPPEN
BOENNE	DE CRAEN	HEYNDRIKX	PIERSENS	VAN CAUTEREN	VAN STEENBERGEN
BOEYKENS	DE DAUW	HILLEGEER	PIESSENS	VAN DAMME	VAN STEENDAM
BOGAERT	DE DECKER	HOELEBRAND	PIUMBROECK	VAN DENEEDEN	VAN WESEMAEL
BOLLENS	DE DYCKER	HOEYKENS	POPPE	VAN DE VELDE	VAN WIELE
BOLSENS	DE GEEST	HOSKENS	POUWELS	VAN DE VOORDE	VAN WOLVELAER
BOLSSSENS	DE HERT	J	PROVOST	VAN DEN BERGHE	VER
BOONE	DE JAECK	JANSSSENS	PUYMBROECK	VAN DEN BOSCH	VERBEECKE
BORDUI	DE JONGHE	JASPERS	R	VAN DEN BRANDE	VERBRAEKEN
BOSMAN,	DE KERF	JUNGBLOET	RAES	VAN DEN BRANDEN	VERCAMMEN
BOYKENS	DE LAET	K	REYNS	VAN DEN BROECK	VERCAUTEREN
BRAEM	DE LEE	KAESSENS	ROGIERS	VAN DEN EYNDE	VEREECKE
BROECKAERT	DE MAERE	KEGELS	ROMBAUT	VAN DEN	VEREECKEN
BRUYLANT	DE MAEYER	KLAUS	ROOMAN	NIEUWENHUYZEN	VERELLEN
BRYN	DE MAN	L	ROOMS	VAN DEN	VERGAUWEN
BUELENS	DE MEULENAER	LAMBRECHTS	ROTTHIER	WYNGAERT	VERGETS
BURGHGRAEVE	DE MOL	LAMPERS	ROTTIER	VAN DER AA	VERGUTS
BUNN	DE MONCK	LAPIERRE	ROUWENS	VAN DER LINDEN	VERHAEGEN
BUYTAERT	DE MUNCK	LARDENOIT	RYCKAERT	VAN DRIESSCHE	VERHAVERT
C	DE MUNK	LAUREYS	S	VAN DUYSE	VERHEYEN
CANT	DE NUL	LAUWENS	SACK	VAN EETVELT	VERMEIREN
CAPPAERT	DE PAEPE	LOKERMANS	SANTON	VAN EYCK	VERMEULEN
CAPPEART	DE POORTER	LORIE	SCHADRON	VAN EYNDE	VERMULLEN
CATHOIR	DE POTTER	LOSSIE	SCHAEKERS	VAN GAVAREN	VERMIENEN
CLAES	DE PRAETER	LOWREYS	SCHAILLEE	VAN GEEM	VERNIMMEN
CLAUS	DE PUYSELAERE	LÜTZ	SCHAUT	VAN GEERTSOM	VERSMISSEN
CLEYS	DE PUYSELEYR	M	SCHEERDERS	VAN GEETSOM	VERSTRAETEN
COLPAERT	DE RIDDER	MADEREEL	SCHEERS	VAN GHEEM	VERSTUYFT
COOLS	DE ROECK	MADRIEL	SCHELFHOUT	VAN GOETHEM	VERTENTEN
COOLSSSENS	DE ROP	MAES	SCHOONVLIET	VAN GUYSE	W
COPPENS	DE TONNELAERE	MALSCHAERT	SCHUERMAN	VAN HAELEST	WAGENAAR
COPPIETERS	DE VAELE	MARCKX	SHEARS	VAN HAUTE	WANT
CORDEMANS	DE VOGEL	MARIS	SIEBOS	VAN HAVERMAAT	WAUMAN
D	DE VOS	MATTHYSSENS	SLEEUWAERT	VAN HESE	WETTACH
DAELMAN	DE VRIENDT	MEES	SMET	VAN HOEY	WEYDEMAN
DANSSAERT	DE WILDE	MEESSENS	SNOECK	VAN HOEYLAND	WEYENBERG
DENS	DE WISPELAERE	MEGROEDT	STAES	VAN HOEYWEGEN	WEYN
DUERINCKX	DE WITTE	MELIS	STROBBENS	VAN HOOST	WEYNACKER
DURINCK	DE YONKE	MERCKX	STUER	VAN IMMERSEEL	WINDEY
D'	DE YOUNG	METS	SUY	VAN ITVELT	WYNEN
D'HOOGHE	DELUGUERRE	MEUL	T	VAN KERCKHOVE	ZAMAN
D'OLIESLAGER		MIDDAG	THIELMAN	VAN LAERE	ZIEBOSCH

SHELDON, WYOMING COUNTY, NEW YORK

BY **Micheline Gaudette**

"SHELDON - was formed from Batavia (Genesee Co.) March 19, 1808. Attica was taken off in 1811, and Bennington and China in 1818. Its surface is a rolling upland, 400 to 600 ft. above the valleys. Tonawanda Creek flows through the E. and several tributaries of Buffalo Creek through the W. part. The soil upon the hi/isa thin, dark loam underlaid by hardpan, and in the valleys a gravelly loam. STRYKERSVILLE, (p.v.) in the SW corner of the town, contains several mills, 2 churches, and about 400 inhabitants. VARYSBURCH, (p.v.) in the NE., upon Tonawanda Creek, contains 2 churches and 20 dwellings. SHELDON (p.o.) and NORTH SHELDON (p.o.) are hamlets. JOHNSONBURGH (p.v.) is on the line of Orangeville. The first settlement was made in the N. part, in 1804, by Roswell Turner, agent of Phelps and Chipman, the original purchasers of the town. The first religious meeting (Bap.) was held at the house of Roswell Turner, by Rev. Mr. Spencer. The first church was formed at the Center in 1808."

This description of the town of Sheldon was taken from J.H. French's Gazetteer of the State of New York, 1860, which mentioned in the footnotes that the more recent settlements in the town have been made mostly by German immigrants.

Of course there were many German emigrants in Sheldon, but there were also many Belgian emigrants who had arrived in that town ca. 1850. Most if not all were from the Luxembourg province of Belgium and spoke Luxemburgish (a Germanic language).

In Belgium the consensus was that a cemetery was all that remained of Sheldon. We investigated further by contacting the Public Library of Warsaw (main town of Wyoming Co.) and received not only a lot of information about the past history of Sheldon but also the name and address of Mrs. **Barbara Durfee**, Sheldon's very knowledgeable town historian.

We had struck gold! Sheldon was alive and well with a stable population of about 2500 people, many descending from Belgian emigrants.

Father **DUCAT** and two friends, Roger **DARDENNE** and Jean Marie **ZIMMERMAN** (who lives in Wolkrange and is the expert when it comes to Luxembourg names) visited Sheldon on July 4, 1995, they will write about the contemporary history of Sheldon and its inhabitants of Belgian descent.

Until we hear from them, here is a list of Belgians found in the Sheldon, Wyoming Co. New York, 1850 US Census. No doubt some of the names were misspelled by the 1850 census taker and by the 1994 transcriber (me)...

Sheldon, Wyoming Co., New York, 1850 U.S. Census.

White males: 1300

White females: 1227

BARNEL Jacob 53 (real estate value \$300) born Belgium, **BARNEL36** born Belgium, **BARNEL John 11** born Belgium, **BARNEL John 2** born NY, **BARNEL Mary I** born NY.

BAWIN Susanna 74 born Belgium listed with **DASHITE** Family.

BERNARD Dominick 41 (real estate value \$250) born Luxembourg, **BERNARD Catherine** 40 born Luxembourg, **BERARD Margaret** 13 born Luxembourg, **BERNARD Nicholas** 11 born Luxembourg, **BERNARD Peter** 5 born Luxembourg, **BERNARD Maria** 4 born NY, **BERNARD Paulina** 1 born NY.

BEUDRY John 30 born Belgium, **BEUDRY. . .30** born Belgium, **BEUDRY Catherine** 28 born Belgium, **BEUDRY Nicholas** 34 born Belgium. **SMITH Mary** 60 born Belgium.

BIAL see **BROLL**

BOOTON Elizabeth 54 born Belgium listed with **LEVACH** William family.

BOVIS Frank 48 (farmer real estate value \$300) born Belgium.

BOWEN Dominick 34 born Belgium, **BOWEN Margaret** 29 born Belgium, **BOWEN Catharine** 4 born Belgium, **BOWEN Barbara** 2 born NY, **BOWEN Susanna** 1 born NY.

BRIGGS Mary listed with LIPPONER Peter

BROLL or **BIAL** Theodore 45 (blacksmith real estate value \$200) born Belgium, BROLL Charlotte 48 born Belgium, BROLL William 16 born Belgium, BROLL Joseph 10 born NY, BROLL Eliza 8 born NY, BROLL John 5 born NY.

BURGLE or **BURCHE** Catharine 33 (real estate value \$50) born Belgium, BURGLE Anthony 12 born Belgium, BURCLE Nicholas 4 born Belgium, BURCLE Jarvis 15 born Belgium.

CASELE Dominick 37 (real estate value: \$250) born Belgium, CASELE Alb. .37 born France. Children listed as **CASTLE** Conrard 9 born NY, CASTLE Elizabeth 7 born NY, CASTLE Barbara 5 born NY, CASTLE Marguaret 2 born NY.

CLEMENCONS Jacob 36 (real estate value: \$600) born Belgium, CLEMENCONS Catherine 42 born Belgium, CLEMENCONS Mary H. 15 born Belgium, CLEMENCONS Margaret 8 born Belgium, CLEMENCONS Charles 3 born NY.

CLEMENCONS John B. 31 (blacksmith) born Belgium, CLEMENCONS Margaret 29 born Belgium, CLEMENCONS Catharine 1 born NY.

DAHACK Henry 61 (real estate value \$270) born Luxembourg, DAHACK Anne M. 53 born Luxembourg, DAHACK John 23 born Luxembourg, DAHACK Peter born Luxembourg, DAHACK Maria 20 born Luxembourg, DAHACK John 19 born Luxembourg, DAHACK Peter 11 born Luxembourg.

DAMINISA (DOMENECI ?) John 54 born Belgium (farmer, real estate value: \$200), DAMINISA Susanna 35 born Belgium, DAMINISA John F. 14 born Belgium, DAMINISA Michael 17 born Belgium, DAMINISA John 5 born Belgium, DAMINISA Barbara 2 born NY., DAMINISA John 24 born Belgium (real estate value \$250).

FABER Peter 56 (real estate value \$210) born Belgium, FABER John 50 born Belgium, FABER Wm. 11 born Belgium, FABER Helbert 7 born Belgium, FABER Catharine 13 born Belgium, FABER Margaret 3 born NY.

FABER William 50 (real estate value \$400) born Belgium, FABER Margaret 40 born Belgium. FUGLE Catherine 46 born Belgium, with Joseph FUGLES from Baden.

FUGLE Frederick 39 (real estate value \$100) born Baden, FUGLE Anne 25 born Belgium, FUGLE~Nicholas 1 born NY, FUGLE Catharine 70 born Baden.

GAILARD Gilles 38 (laborer) born Belgium, GAILARD Victor (female) 32 born Belgium, GAILARD Mary V. 6 born Belgium, GAILARD P... (male) 3 born Belgium.

GEORGE Elizabeth 56 (real estate value: \$2000) born Belgium, GEORGE Peter 31 born Belgium, GEORGE Nicholas 30 born Belgium, GEORGE John 26 born Belgium, GEORGE Cattr? 21 born Belgium, GEORGE Margaret 28 born Belgium, GEORGE Margaret 5 born NY, GEORGE Nicholas 3 born NY, GEORGE Theodore 1 born NY.

GEORGE Joseph 32 (real estate value \$600) born Belgium, GEORGE Hannah 25 born Belgium, GEORGE John P. 2 born NY, GEORGE N. born NY.

GEORGE Michael (real estate value \$150) born Belgium, GEORGE Elisabeth 40 born Holland, GEORGE Catherine 9 born Belgium, GEORGE Margaret 7 born Belgium, GEORGE Elisabeth 3 born NY.

GEORGE Nicholas 40 (real estate value: \$900) born Belgium, GEORGE Catharine 36 born Belgium, GEORGE Catharine 8 born NY, GEORGE Nicholas 7 born NY, GEORGE Lucy 5 born NY, GEORGE John N. 3 born NY, GEORGE Michael 1 born NY, GEORGE Peter I born NY.

GEORGE Peter 39 born Belgium (farmer, real estate value : \$800), GEORGE Mary Anne 34 born Belgium, GEORGE Anna 65 born Belgium, GEORGE Peter 3 born NY, GEORGE Baptist 1 born NY, GEORGE Margaret 6 born NY, GEORGE Catharine 5 born NY.

GEORGE Perry 36 born Belgium, GEORGE Josephine 34 born Germany, GEORGE Joseph 8 born NY, GEORGE Lewis born NY, GEORGE Frank 4 born NY, GEORGE Elizabeth 11/12 born NY.

GEORGE Peter 38 (real estate value: \$1000) born Belgium, GEORGE Barbara 39 born Belgium, GEORGE Peter 11 born NY, GEORGE Frank 10 born NY, GEORGE Nicholas 9 born NY, GEORGE Anne 8 born NY, GEORGE Mary 7 born NY, GEORGE Anna 5 born NY, GEORGE John 3 born NY, GEORGE Jane 2 born NY.

GIURSH Victor 56 born Belgium, GIURSH... 46 born Belgium, GIURSH Martin 19 born Belgium, (GIURSH John 15 born Belgium, GIURSH Mary 17 born Belgium, GIRSH Susan 20 born Belgium.

HARMON Nicholas 47 born Belgium, HARMON Anna 36 born Belgium, HARMON Joseph 16 born Belgium, HARMON Susan 7 born Belgium, HARMON William 4 born NY, HARMON Elizabeth 2 born NY.

HAUT or **HANT John** 33 (shoemaker real estate value \$200) born Belgium, **HAUL Anne** 32 born Belgium, **WAGNER Lucy** 1/4 born NY.

HAUVLER or **HAWLER Peter** 21, born Belgium, **HAUVLER Margaret** 54 (real estate value \$400) born Belgium, **HAUVLER Nicholas** 25 born Belgium, **HAUVLER Theresia** 24 born Belgium, **HAUVLER Margaret** 16 born Belgium.

HAWLER see **HAUVLER**

HENRY Mary listed with **LUSTTIYOUNG?** John N.

HENRY Nicholas 39 (real estate value \$700) born Belgium, **HENRY Margaret** 36 born Belgium, **HENRY Joseph** 8 born Belgium, **HENRY Mary** born Belgium, **HENRY John** 3 born NY, **HENRY Nicholas** 1 born NY. **HENRY John** 21 shoemaker born Belgium.

JACCOBY Nicholas 34 born Belgium **JACCOBY, Joanna** 37 born Belgium, **JACCOBY Nicholas** 6 born Belgium, **JACCOBY Joseph** 4 born Belgium, **JACCOBI Nicholas** 1 born NY.

KEYCHER or **KOGEHER John** 26 (laborer) born Belgium, **KEYCHER Catherine** 26 born Belgium, **KEYCHER John** 1/4 born NY.

KIRSCH Charles 15 born Belgium listed with John **BARBER** family.

KIRSCH John 55 (real estate value \$400) born Belgium, **KIRSCH Catharine** 45 born Belgium, **KIRSCH Nicholas** 24 born Belgium, **KIRSCH Dma** 23 born Belgium, **KIRSCH John** 16 born Belgium, **KIRSCH Charles** 14 born Belgium,

KIRSCH Mary 12 born Belgium, **KIRSCH John** 10 born Belgium, **KIRSCH Nicholas** 6 born Belgium, **KIRSCH Catharine** 3 born NY.

KIRSCH Michael 43 (farmer real estate value \$400) born Belgium, **KIRSCH Margaret** 42 born Belgium, **KIRSCH John** 14 born Belgium, **KIRSCH Catherine** 11 born Belgium, **KIRSCH Nicholas** 9 born Belgium, **KIRSCH Frances** 7 born Belgium, **KIRSCH Theodore** 3 born NY, **KIRSCH Nicholas I** born NY.

KLIM Francis 54 (real estate value \$210) born Belgium, **KLIM Catherine** 57 born Belgium, **KLIM Charles** 22 born Belgium, **KLIM John** 18 born Belgium.

KOGEHER see **KEYCHER**

KOLP Nicholas 56 born Belgium, **KOLP Jennet** 62 born Belgium, **KOLPH Mary** 1 born NY.

KUTTEN Peter 58 (real estate value \$400) born Belgium. **RIDER Anthony** 35 (real estate value \$1000) born Belgium, **RIDER Anna** 35 born Belgium, **RIDER Barbara** 6 born Belgium, **RIDER Peter** 2 born NY.

LEVACH William 26 born Belgium, **LEVACH Hannah** 26 born Belgium, **LEVACH Elizabeth** 2 born NY, **LEVACH Theodore** 1/4 born NY. **BOOTON Elizabeth** 54 born Belgium.

LIFFERING ? Frank 14 born Belgium listed with **ROGERS** family.

LIPPONER Peter 35 (real estate value \$200) born Belgium, **LIPPONER Margaret** 37 born Belgium, **LIPPONER Nicholas** 8 born Belgium, **LIPPONER Jane** 4 born Belgium, **LIPPONER Margaret** 2 born NY, **BRIGGS Mary** 9 born NY.

LOGLE Margaret 39 born Belgium wife of **LOGLE John** born France.

LOWELL Philipp 44 born Baden, **LOWELL Barbara** 33 born Belgium, **LOWELL Peter** 17 born Belgium, **LOWELL Philip** 14 born Belgium.

LUSTTIYOUNG ? Peter 50 (real estate value: \$600) born Belgium, **LUSTTIYOUNG?** Elizabeth 46 born Belgium, **LUSTTIYOUNG?** John 24 born Belgium, **LUSTTIYOUNG ? Anne M.** 25 born Belgium, **LUSTTIYOUNG?** Nicholas 17 born Belgium, **LUSTTIYOUNG?** Louis 15 born Belgium, **LUSTTIYOUNG?** Laura 14 born Belgium, **LUSTTIYOUNG?** Catharine 12 born Belgium, **LUSTTIYOUNG?** Michael 7 born Belgium, **LUSTTIYOUNG?** Mary 5 born NY, **LUSTTIYOUNG?** Josephine 3 born NY, **LUSTTIYOUNG?** Peter 1 born NY,

LUSTTIYOUNG? John N. 26 born Belgium, **HENRY Mary** 22 born Belgium.

MACCOLIS? or MICCOLIS? William 40 (real estate value: \$300) **MACCOLIS Barbara** 29 born Belgium, **MACCOLIS Peter** 3 born NY, **MACCOLIS Anna** 1 born NY, **MACCOLIS Maria** 1/2 born NY.

MELEN? Catherine 70 born Belgium, listed with **MEYSE** family from Holland.

MEYER John 40 (real estate value: \$36) born Belgium, **MEYER Jeannet** 44 born Belgium, **MEYER Nicholas** 12 born Belgium, **MEYER John** 10 born Belgium, **MEYER Anne** 5 born Belgium, **MEYER Nicholas** 2 born NY.

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MUSS Henry 40 (real estate value \$600) born Luxembourg, MUSS Margaret 35 born Luxembourg, MUSS Elizabeth 15 born Luxembourg, MUSS Peter 13 born Luxembourg, MUSS Margaret 11 born Luxembourg, MUSS Catharine 9 born Luxembourg, MUSS Margaret Jane 7 born Luxembourg, MUSS Nicholas 3 born NY, MUSS Elizabeth 1 born NY.

MUSTY John 53 (real estate value \$500) born Belgium, MUSTY Laura? 48 born Belgium, MUSTY Peter 17 born Belgium, MUSTY Catharine 8 born Belgium.

MUSTY Nicholas 28 (real estate value \$1100) born Belgium, MUSTY Delphine 19 born France. WATCHEN? WATCHEG? Joseph 50 born France, WATCHEN Lucia 50 born France, WATCHEN Clarissa 30 born France, WATCHEN Lucia 14 born France, WATCHEN Viola 11 born France.

MYRTZ John 74 (real estate value \$500) born Belgium, MYRTZ Mina 51 born Belgium.

NEURENHAUSEN Peter 36 (real estate value: \$52) born Belgium, NEURENHAUSEN Catharine 48 born Belgium, NEURENHAUSEN Peter 13 born Belgium, NEURENHAUSEN Mary 4 born Belgium.

NEWELL Nicholas 42 (carpenter real estate value: \$1200) born Belgium, NEWELL Ann 35 born Belgium, NEWELL Nicholas 10 born NY, NEWELL Virginia 9 born NY, NEWELL Frank 5 born NY, NEWELL Mary Ann 3 born NY, NEWELL Joseph 2 born NY, NEWELL John 1 born NY.

NICHOLAS Thomas 23 (tailor) born Belgium, NICHOLAS Anna 25 born Belgium, NICHOLAS Thomas 33 born Belgium. THOMAS Peter (farmer) born Belgium listed with KOLP Nicholas family.

NOTERM Nicholas 40 (real estate value \$600) born Belgium, NOTERM Barbara 40 born Belgium, NOTERM Paul? 7 born Belgium, NOTERM Anna born NY, NOTERM Francisca 4 born NY, NOTERM Mary 3 born NY, NOTERM Margaret 1/2 born NY.

PASCAL Edward 20 born Belgium, parents born France.

PEARL or PEORL John N. 50 (real estate value \$900) born Belgium, PEARL Joanna 43 born Belgium, PEARL Eliza 14 born Belgium, PEARL Anne 11 born Belgium, PEARL Peter 7 born Belgium, PEARL John P. 5 born Belgium, PEARL Margaret 2 born NY.

PERRY Catherine 13 born Belgium listed with MAUER? family.

PERRY Nicholas 42 (real estate value \$200) born Belgium, PERRY Margaret 38 born Belgium, PERRY Harry 14 born Belgium, PERRY John 12 born Belgium, PERRY Josephine 10 born Belgium, PERRY Nicholas 8 born Belgium, PERRY Margaret 2 born NY.

POOL Battis 63 (real estate value \$500) born Belgium, POOL Elizabeth 35 born Belgium, POOL Nicholas 15 born Belgium, POOL Anne 10 born Belgium, POOL Catharina 8 born Belgium, POOL Damien 4 born NY, POOL Battis 2 born NY.

PUCK Nicholas 50 (real estate value: \$600) born Belgium, PUCK Jane 32 born Belgium, PUCK Catharina 2 born NY, PUCK Nicholas 2 born NY, PUCK John 1 born NY. PUCK Margaret 35 born Belgium.

READING Adam 48, READING Magdalena 47, READING Stafford 23, READING Catharine 18, READING Margaret 16, READING Anna 14, READING Catharine 10, READING Margaret 8, READING Stephen 4 born Holland.

READING Henry 54 (real estate value \$700) born Germany, READING Catharine 45 born Germany, READING Dominick 19 born Germany, READING Stephan 17 born Germany, READING Anna 14 born NY, READING Hubbard 12 born NY, READING Catharine 10 born NY, READING Nicholas B born NY, READING Joseph 6 born NY, READING Peter 4 born NY, READING Eve 3 born NY.

READING Michael 19 born Belgium listed with HOLCOMB family.

READING Stafford 23 (real estate value: \$300) born Belgium, READING Mary 25 born Belgium, READING Mary 1/4 born NY.

RIDER Anthony 35 (real estate value: \$1000) born Belgium, RIDER Anna 35 born Belgium, RIDER Barbara born Belgium, RIDER Peter 2 born NY. Listed with KUTTEN Peter.

ROBERTS Andrien 45 (real estate value \$300) born Belgium, ROBERTS Mary 47 born Belgium, ROBERTS Nicholas 19 born Belgium, ROBERTS Jacob 14 born Belgium, ROBERTS Peter 11 born Belgium, ROBERTS Charles 8 born Belgium, ROBERTS Mary 6 born Belgium.

ROBERTIS Nicholas 19 born Belgium listed with VALENTINE Family.

SCHELEG Frank 47 born Belgium, SCHELEG Catharine 40 born Belgium, SCHELEG Frank 14, SCHELEG Michael 13, SCHELEG John N. 10, SCHELEG Dominick 9, SCHELEG Peter 4, SCHELEG John 2, SCHELEG Mary 1 born NY.

SCHELEG George 37 (real estate value \$500) born Belgium, SCHELEG Mary 43 born Belgium, SCHELEG Leana 13 born Belgium, SCHELEG Margaret 13 born Belgium, SCHELEG Mary 12 born Belgium, SCHELEG Martin 9 born Belgium, SCHELEG Michael 7 born Belgium, SCHELEG Dominick 5 born NY, SCHELEG Stephen 3 born NY, SCHELEG Sylen? 1 born NY.

SCHILD Michael 20 born Belgium listed with HATFIELD Farruly.

SCHROEDER Peter 29 (real estate value: \$210) born Belgium, SCHROEDER Susan 23 born Belgium, SCHROEDER Margaret 1 born NY.

SHEAR Frank 30 (farmer real estate value \$200) born Belgium, SHEAR Catherine 32 born Belgium, SHEAR Leonard 6 born Belgium, SHEAR Frank 5 born Belgium, SHEAR William 2 born NY, Marg. 3? born NY. This family is listed with Frank BOVIS.

SHIELD Peter 54 (real estate value \$300) born Belgium, SHIELD Ann.. 56 born Belgium, SHIELD Michael 20 born Belgium, SHIELD Nicholas 16 born Belgium, SHIELD Theodore 12 born Belgium, SHIELD John 9 born Belgium.

SHOONEN Peter 38 (carpenter real estate value \$150) born Belgium, SHOONEN Anna C. 39 born Belgium, SHOONEN Everett 4 born Belgium, SHOONEN Catharine 4 born NY(?), SHOONEN Arlene 3 born NY, SHOONEN Victoria 2 born NY, SHOONEN John B. 1/2 born NY,

SHOONEN Anna B. 40 born Belgium, SHOONEN Catherine 20 born Belgium, SHOONEN Peter 2 born NY, SHOONEN Peter 32 (farmer) born Belgium.

SHROEDER Everett 72 born Belgium, SHROEDER Nicholas 32 born Belgium, SHROEDER Everett 1 born NY, SHROEDER Frances 26 born Belgium.

SMITH Mary 60 born Belgium listed with BEUDRY John family.

SWARTS Charles 31 born Belgium, SWARTS Mary born Holland.

VITNER? John 45 (real estate value \$1000) born Belgium, VITNER Catharina 26 born Belgium, VITNER Nicholas 4 born NY, VITNER Peter 1 born NY.

WAGNER Lucy see HAUT John.

WAGNER Peter 57 (real estate value \$ 1000) born Belgium, WAGNER Margaret 52 born Belgium, WAGNER John 32 born Belgium, WAGNER Margaret 29 born Holland, WAGNER Margaret 14 born Belgium, WAGNER Peter 10 born Belgium.

WATCHEG see **WATCHEN Nicholas**.

WATCHEN? WATCHEG? Joseph 50 born France, WATCHEN Lucia 50 born France, WATCHEN Clarissa 30 born France, WATCHEN Lucia 14 born France, WATCHEN Volia 11 born France. Listed with MUSTY Nicholas.

WAUTIER Mary 25 born Belgium spouse of WAUTIER Clovis born France.

YOUNGERTS? JOUNGERTS? Andre 34 born Belgium, YOUNGERTS Joanna 31 born Belgium, YOUNGERTS Dominick 6 born Belgium, YOUNGERTS Frank 3 born NY, YOUNGERTS Catharine 2 born NY.

NB. Most of the people listed with a real estate value can be found also in [US Land Ownership, 1853 - Sheldon, Wyoming Co. New York](#).

The Wisconsin Corner

By Mary Ann Defnet, Green Bay, WI

Area News

The Peninsula Belgian-American Club closed its year with a meeting on October 19. Final plans were made for the December 3 Christmas party. Special guest was Christophe Lutringer, a young man from Brussels, Belgium, who will stay in the area for two months, intending to improve his English skills. In addition to hosting the 20th Anniversary visit of the Wallonie-Wisconsin Society in July, the Club gave assistance to the Lions' Club for the annual Belgian Days celebration (always held the first Sunday after July 4), and they put on display at the Brussels Kermisse in September.

"Ancestral Pursuit II", a genealogical workshop sponsored by the Area Research Center, University of Wisconsin/Green Bay, was held October 13 and 14. Your columnist gave two lectures on Belgian research. Other speakers offered presentations on Irish, German, Polish, Native American, Scandinavian, and French-Canadian ancestry. More than 175 people attended the Workshop.



For 42 consecutive years the Brussels Lions Club has sponsored an annual ethnic "Belgian days Festival" The 2 day fundraiser event includes serving authentic Belgian food, a Belgian "Backward" softball tournament featuring area Lions Club teams, a garden tractor pull, tug-of-war contest, craft show and live music – Wisconsin Lion Nov 2003

www.wilion.net/md27/magazine/200311nov.pdf



Title: **Adele Hannon Minsart**

Donor: Paye, Richard

Publisher: University of Wisconsin System

Description: Birth: 12 April 1842, Marriage: 1 September 1860, Death: 31 October 1916

Is Part Of: **Belgian-American Research Collection - The State of Wisconsin Collection**

Ownership: Material owned by University of Wisconsin - Green Bay. Cofrin Library

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Declarations of Intention - Brown County, Wisconsin

By Mary Ann Defnet

When the Belgian immigrants arrived in northeastern Wisconsin in the mid-1850's, the only Court House in the area was located in Green Bay, Brown County. (They had not yet moved into the townships of southern Door County.) Thus, most Declarations of Intention to Become a Citizen of the United States were made here. Names are given as they appear, with corrections made in parentheses. The original Declarations are on file in the Archives of the Area Research Center, University of Wisconsin/Green Bay.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birth Year</u>	<u>Port</u>	<u>Arrival</u>	<u>Declaration</u>
Etienne D'ETIENNE	1824	New York	July 1853	20 Dec 1853
Jean Bte. D'ETIENNE	1828	New York	July 1853	20 Dec 1853
Jean Bte. ANON (HANNON)	1833	New York	October 1853	20 Dec 1853
Gaspard BOUCHER	1814	New York	August 1854	30 Nov 1854
Etienne DECHATFAU (DUCHATFAU)	1826	New York	July 1854	23 Aug 1854
Jean DE KEUSTER	1803	New York	December 1853	16 Jan 1854
Jean Joseph DE KEUSTER	1827	New York	December 1853	16 Jan 1854
Gregoire DELVAUX	1800	New York	April 1854	8 May 1854
Jean Bte. DELVAUX	1824	New York	April 1854	8 May 1854
Jean Joseph DELVAUX	1823	New York	April 1854	8 May 1854
Desire DUQUAINE	1812	New York	April 1854	8 May 1854
Philip d'ETIENNE	1822	New York	October 1853	28 Mar 1854
Gregoire DOIRE (DOYEN)	1832	New York	December 1853	20 Sept 1854
Jean-Francois DOYEN	1785	New York	December 1853	16 Jan 1854
Edward Jean Baptiste EVRASSE (EVRAETS)	1804	New York	April 1854	8 May 1854
J. Bte. EVRAETS	1832	New York	August 1854	8 Dec 1854
Etienne Joseph EVRAERS	1818	New York	October 1854	6 Nov 1854
Andre Jean GILLARD	1801	New York	July 1850 (?)	5 Sept 1854
Lambert Jos. BODART	1829	New York	July 1853	4 April 1854

Francois ANON (HANNON)	1808	New York	August 1853	4 Apr 1854
Philippe Honore --- (HANNON)	1814	New York	July 1853	3 Apr 1854
John Francis HORKMANS	1823	New York	August 1854	6 Nov 1854
Henry HORKMANS	1794	New York	June 1854	25 Aug 1854
Gillan (Guillaume) HORKMANS	1830	New York	July 1853	4 Apr 1854
Jean Francois Honore JENQUINNE	1820	New York	April 1854	8 May 1854
Jean Joseph JOSSART	1829	New York	July 1854	23 Oct 1854
Francois Jos. LARDINOIS	1827	New York	April 1854	8 May 1854
Constant Jos. MARTIN	1830	New York	December 1853	2 Aug 1854
Jean-Joseph MARTIN	1805	Phila.	August 1853	4 Oct 1854
Adrien NASY (MASSY)	1826	New York	July 1853	3 Apr 1854
Jean Bte. MEULEMANS	1822	New York	July 1854	18 Aug 1854
Jean-Joseph MOUREAU	1822	New York	July 1853	3 April 1854
Benoni NELIS	1830	Manayunk, Pa.	July 1853	9 Sept 1854
Eugene NELIS	1803	Manayunk, Pa.	January 1854	9 Sept 1854
Martin PARQUE (PAQUE)	1814	Phila.	August 1853	4 Oct 1854
Francois Constant PETITJEAN (PETINIOT)	1832	New York	July 1853	4 April 1854
Guillaume PIESTANS (?)	1824	New York	July 1854	30 Aug 1854
Joseph HAULOTTE	1815	New York	July 1853	4 April 1854
John Bte. HAULOTTE	1779	New York	July 1853	4 April 1854
Henry RUBENS	1829	New York	September 1854	5 Oct 1854
Jean-Bte. RUBENS	1816	New York	September 1854	5 Oct 1854
Celestin TYRIE (THIRY)	1834	New York	December 1853	5 Sept 1854
Ignace VALVIN (?)	1833	New York	August 1854	6 Nov 1854
Joseph VANDENBERGH	1824	New York	July 1854	25 Sept 1854
Pierre Jean VANDEN BOGAERT	1823	New York	July 1854	16 Aug 1854
Jean-Bte. VANNIEVENHOVEN	1818	New York	July 1854	25 Sept 1854
Petrus VANDEN BOSCH	1832	New York	July 1853	Apr 1854
Jean-Joseph VECKERS (?)	1831	New York	1853	3 Apr 1854
Jean-Baptiste VINCNET	1803	New York	July 1854	14 Aug 1854
Jean-Bte. VERHULST	1820	New York	July 1854	18 Aug 1854
Francois FORVELIE (FORVILLY)	1810	New York	April 1854	8 May 1854
Josh ABSOLUS (George ABSELIUS)	1812	New York	July 1855	26 Sept 1855
Antonius ABTS	1807	New York	August 1854	12 Sept 1855
Albert ANTOINE	1824	Mackinac	July 1855	7 Aug 1855
Antoine STORDE (STORDEUR)	1815	New York	October 1855	21 Nov 1855
J. B. BADER	1825	Green Bay	June 1855	25 -- 1855

(To be continued---note that dates may not be exact as immigrants often did not remember their exact birth years nor their exact dates of arrival.)



<http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/WI/subcollections/BelgAmrColAbout.shtml>



PERFECT TIMING

By Donald J Van Houdenos - (Old version was Van Houwenhuyse)
15260 SE Bevington Avenue
Milwaukie OR 97267

As a Belgian, have you ever found yourself feeling alone and abandoned in the family research?

It always seems there is a lot more information when it comes to acquiring information if you are

German, Irish, English, French, etc. I have been in that situation many times.

It seems like that everywhere I go, I am always looking for information about the country of Belgium. I have been to libraries, family history centers, regional archive centers and local genealogical centers. I have even been to that beautiful country called Belgium, last year, where I did research and also met relatives.

It, however, I had the good fortune of locating information about Belgium, I am always at a disadvantage because my relatives are from the small towns of Maldegem and St. Laureins; two towns in East Flanders that aren't listed in the main glossary of Belgian reference material.

My employment entails me to travel to vast areas of Oregon and southwest Washington. Wherever I have to spend the night in a motel, it has been my habit to look into the yellow pages of the telephone directory to see if the local Mormon church has a Family History Center (FHC).

It was one of those job assignments, where I had to make the decision to drive west to Pendleton, or to stay in the city where I had just completed my last job. I proceeded to place a call to the Pendleton motel, but found out that they had no vacancies.

Without hesitation, I called the local Best Western motel and made a reservation for the evening. Prior to driving to the motel, I decided to investigate the possibility of a FHC in the city.

To my amazement, there was such a center. While driving to the motel, I decided to drive past the center and check out the hours of operation. As I drove past the address that I had received, my eyes beheld a small building, not the usual sized Mormon church. I could not believe Its size - was this the church and FHC? They couldn't have very much information nor equipment! - My expectations weren't very high But because the signboard mentioned that it indeed was a FHC, and that it would have opening hours this particular evening, I decided to return after I had checked into the motel and had eaten dinner.

Apprehensive as I was and also having several hours "to kill", I just decided that I would take my time and research any and all information that they might have for me. Upon entering the building, I found out that this was not the church and FHC, but the center alone. I felt better already. As I signed into the log book, I noticed that there were a few individuals, sitting around a table discussing data. I paid no attention to their conversation as I proceeded over to the

library of reference material adorning the walls.

Again, as I pondered the books, still looking for Belgian information, I overheard one of the women ask this gentleman "*How Would you say this phrase in French?*" The gentleman would return her question in French. Again, this woman would ask "*How would you say this phrase in German?*" Again, this gentleman would return her question in German. And for a third time, the woman asked "*And how would you say this phrase in Flemish?*" The gentleman would return her question in Flemish!

FLEMISH? FLEMISH? My ears became as large as my wife's ears when she hears of a blue light special in K-Mart! Was I hearing this correctly? Had I hit a gold mine?? My attention immediately left the reference material and I carefully eavesdropped even a little more into the remaining conversation of the three individuals. I could not stand it any longer; I decided to join them and introduce myself.

Here in a city called La Grande, Oregon, I was introduced to a gentleman by the name of Pierre Ingheis. For the next two and a-half hours, we sat at the table talking about nothing else except Belgium, his organization called *The Belgian Researchers* and the work that he and his wife, Leen, are doing to organize a core of Belgium families in this part of the Pacific Northwest.

Needless to say, I didn't make use of the reference material at the La Grande FHC. I will have to return there some day for further research.

Who could have guessed it that in this city of 12,000 population, a city closer to Boise, Idaho than Portland, Oregon, there would be the headquarters of a Belgian organization that extends its membership, not only to Individuals in this country, but to foreign countries as well.

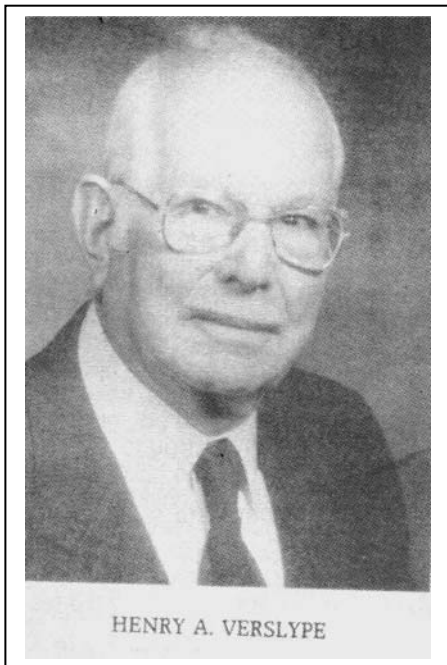
Who would have known, not I, that I would attend this local FHC on a Wednesday evening, the only evening that Pierre attends this center to help in his research and to help individuals walking in off the street, like myself.

Who would have known that on this particular day the local newspaper would also be printing a full page story, with pictures, on whom else but Pierre and Leen, highlighting their work and organization. As a transient, I was not aware of this article until Pierre showed it to me.

I have utilized many research centers and never have I mentioned that I was trying to obtain Belgian family information. On any other operating evening at THIS particular research center, I could have come and gone without mentioning any family background. And THAT would have been MY loss.

Needless to say, I am now number 597 on the membership list of *The Belgian Researchers*, signing up immediately after I returned home from my business trip. Since that time, Pierre has supplied me with additional surname information along with the quarterly named Belgian Laces. I am proud and happy to be a member of this organization and I look forward to meeting fellow Belgian-Americans.

MEMBER'S PROFILE: HENRY A. VERSLYPE



Henry A. Verslype, Belgian

Researchers - membership number 37, was born in 1910 in Belgium and came to the US with his parents at age 3. They moved to East Moline, where his father found work as a carpenter. In 1923, Henry's father heard that there was a building boom

in South Bend, Indiana, where the Belgian company **Colpaert Realty** was developing the River Park area. The Verslype family moved to Mishawaka that same year. Henry has always been an avid reader: "*We arrived (in Mishawaka) on a Saturday*", said Henry in 1986 in an interview with the reporter of the *South Bend Tribune*, "*and on Monday already / got my library card. As far back as I can remember, I always read a lot, like books were going to be burned the next day*".

In 1925, when Henry turned 15, his father insisted that he quit school, because he thought that it was time for the boy to have a job. Henry found work at the Uniroyal plant in Mishawaka, where he was given a "boy's job" of cementing soles for shoes. During his 47 years of service at the same plant, Henry climbed the different departments and echelons, until he was named Quality Manager, a job he kept until his retirement in 1971.

During his management years at Uniroyal, Henry continued to read a lot, edited the division newspaper and collaborated to the factory newspaper. He **became especially interested** in the history of the emigration of the Belgians to the United States, and through his research realized that 16% of the population of Mishawaka and South Bend came directly from Belgium or were of Belgian descent. "*I was always interested in things Belgian, so / clipped and filed articles, just because I was interested, and I wanted to pass the information on to my four children and my ten grandchildren*" Verslype said in the above mentioned interview.

He enrolled at the Forever Learning Institute in 1979,

where they offered a class in autobiography writing. This class was supposed to last only six weeks, but at the end of the course no one wanted to quit, so the Institute extended the course to 12 weeks.

For a special project related to the class, Henry decided to research the Belgians. Upon his request at the library for material regarding this ethnic group, he was surprised to find out that nothing was available in spite of the fact that 16% of the local population was Belgian. He started digging through newspaper clippings, the Mishawaka census, he studied the archives of the local churches, old city directories and finally resorted to interviewing local residents. He also wrote a lot from personal memory "*because I'm part of the history too*".

His term paper for the class was about 12 pages long, but the research he had done for it had whetted his appetite. He discovered new sources of information, especially in Moline, Ill, largest conglomeration of Belgians in the US. He learned that the **Indiana Committee for the Humanities** had a new program for grants for Indiana Heritage Research. He applied through the Indiana Historical Society, and received the grant, which permitted him to write his vary interesting and well documented book, **The Belgians In Indiana**. It probably is one of the best documented books about Belgian emigration in the US, not limited to Indiana, but including notes about the whole Midwest and New York. Published in 1987, it has enjoyed three reprints of the 300 pages enhanced by a large number of photographs.

About 20 copies are still available at U.S. \$2400 S&H included for the U.S. and Canada or U.S. \$29.00 for other countries. We have some books at the office of the **Belgian Researchers** on consignment for Henry and Mary.

So far for the member portrait. A few weeks ago (Sept 16) we received a letter from **Mary (Van Poppel) Verslype**, Henry's wife of 65 years. She gave us the sad and unexpected news about Henry's battle with Alzheimer. She offered Henry's research notes and his "Belgian" books for the holdings of the organization's library. Saddened and shocked by the news, we were happy and honored with the offer. Just before this issue of *Laces* went to the printers, we received the four boxes of information material. We thank Mary for the donation, which we are cataloguing as **The Henry A. Verslype Library** and which under that name will become permanent part of the library of **The Belgian Researchers**.

Julia Gauthy: A Belgo-American Centenarian

Three months ago, **Julia GAUTHY** celebrated her 100th birthday, a major event in anyone's life! Let's face it, our adoptive country is a good place to live, and for a long time!

The centenarian blew out the 100 candles on her birthday cake, and was the center of celebrating Centalia in Washington, where she has lived for almost 90 years.

Born in Ransart on the 19th of August 1885, Julia emigrated to Canada with her mother when she was barely 10 years old. Her father and mother had left a few years earlier to seek better fortune in the land of promise. It was rumored that work abounded everywhere for those adventurous ones who dared to risk, some lucky ones could even find gold! In the beginning of this century, there were many who, just as Julia's parents, left Europe to go to the other side of the Atlantic Ocean. They left with hope in their hearts and dreams in their heads for this new country of endless horizons, promises of abundant work and hope of good fortune.

Like these many others, father and mother Gauthy left for Canada, but little Julia, too young to accompany her parents on this uncertain journey, had to stay back with her grandmother, who entrusted her education to the nuns. The child was happy, loved by her grandparents and her uncle Octave. But she lived isolated and missed her parents.

The day came at last when her mother Cedaliste came back to get her little girl, that was now going to be ten years old. Julia still remembers the day when she was pulled away from her native land to go to this unknown country far away, of which she didn't know anything, not even its language, but where her father worked for a mining company. The living conditions of her parents in Quebec proved very precarious.

Father Gauthy was changing jobs regularly trying to improve his situation, but the conditions were identical in all mines. They lived in small uncomfortable "company housing" while the winters were rigorous and long, and strange animals surrounded their homes at night. Where was this American dream that had attracted them all, and discouraged so many. But the Gauthy's clung on, they persevered!

From Canada, the Gauthy moved to the US, where they settled definitively, and where the emigrant's dream finally came true and became reality.

It is in the land of Uncle Sam that Julia found love in the person of a Frenchman, named **Camille CLUZEL**. He originated from Clermont-Ferrand, France, spoke French just like she, and was also an immigrant. It was all she needed to be happy. They married and soon started a family: she gave birth to five healthy and happy children: John, Albert, Georges, Rose-Mary and Lucy.

And this is how this country is populated with families proud of their heritage. A heritage, that the children of the centenarian cultivate. Many of them went to Europe, to discover the villages where their father and mother lived and grew up, and where they met their relatives.

Back home, and richer of this experience, they surround their mother with all the care that her age and her health needs, and together they had a beautiful celebration for her centennial.

Congratulation to Julia! God bless you!

(Adapted from an article in *La Nouvelle Gazette de Charleroi* by Pierre Inghels, submitted by Rosemary Baldwin)

WORLD WAR II MEMORIES

A Visit to Belgium by John H. Van Dorpe

My father, mother and two brothers were born in Gent, Belgium. My father, having visited the United States before he married in 1909, was determined to return sometime to provide a better future for his family. However a marriage, two children and World War I intervened, until 1919 when the family finally sailed to America. My parents left behind their parents, several brothers, sisters and cousins in Gent.

I was born and educated in Detroit, enlisting in the Army for WWII. I was shipped to England, landed on the beaches of Normandy, fought through France, Belgium, the Bulge, Luxembourg and Germany before fortune provided me with the opportunity to visit those aunts, uncles and cousins my parents left behind.

Three days scarcely provides enough time to travel from the Rhine River to Gent, visit people I had never met and return. However the trains were up and running in March 1945 and I was able to get military transportation to Liege and then train through Brussels to Gent. Fortunately Gent was not too badly damaged during WW II, at least as compared to some I had fought in and seen.

The local police in Gent directed me to my Uncle Fideles house on De Pintelaan where an astonished, and almost speechless, uncle greeted me. He dispatched orders for as many available relatives as he could reach to assemble as soon as possible to meet and greet this stranger and relative from America.

My memory fails me in recalling many of the details of this gathering, but the joy of it was overwhelming, and I still get choked up writing about it!! Someone in the home gave up their bed. Food, which was scarce, was prepared. One minor incident struck me as peculiar when a bottle of soda was produced and shared among the group. I wondered at the time why a second or third bottle was not opened since there were many people and it was a small bottle until I realized this was probably the only bottle of soda in the City of Gent!! These people made me feel "Welgekomen", providing as much material comfort as they had plus a sense of family.

Fortunately, I had realized before leaving my unit, there would be much privation in the civilian population in Belgium and I arranged to take a parcel of "goodies" with me. Cigarettes, chocolate, a couple of "ten in one" field rations, some oranges (don't ask me where these came from!) and a couple of tins of spam made a satisfactory CARE package.

Tearful good-byes on the third day sent me on my way back to Germany. Uncle Fidele saw to it that I was on the train, not just as a passenger, but in front with the engineer. A front row seat, so to speak. From Liege, hitchhiking provided mobile transportation to my unit with an hour or two to spare.

After the war, the Van Dorpe Clan in the United States was alerted to the shortages our Belgian cousins were facing. We sent many CARE packages, disguised as best we could, as "presents" so as not to offend them. Pride is a most difficult human characteristic to deal with and they had a lot of pride. Eventually, their situation improved and we were subtly advised, as we too realized, that our "presents" were most welcome but "Thank you very much, no more please."

All the aunts and uncles are gone now and all that remain are first, second and third cousins. None of the group at that momentous, joyful meeting is still living. The strings that bound us are still there, but tenuous.

Where in Cyberspace is Belgium? - A *Primer* on computers

by Hans Michael Vermeersch

In this age of the information superhighway, did you know that there is an off ramp that leads directly to Belgium? But what kind of vehicle does it take to get there? The answer to this question entails a bit of "Computerese." Don't worry. I'll try to translate. Still, most of you by now are at least familiar with the basics. It would be easier to find twelve more impartial jurors for another O.J. trial than it would be to find somebody who doesn't know what a personal computer is. I can hear you right now. "But I haven't the vaguest idea." Stop that. of course you do. Perhaps it is indeed the vaguest notion, but that's something.

There was a time that the computer was nothing more than a glorified calculator. But then somebody taught it the alphabet, and it replaced the typewriter. They also gave the computer a new name. It was now a "word processor." These are the basics, but they still won't get you "on-line." Being on-line means driving your computer out on the info-expressway. Some call it "surfing on the net." No, to connect your computer to any other computer or to the whole internet network of computers, you need a modem. A modem is a small piece of hardware that connects your computer to your phone. It's with your phone that you cast your token and enter the computer turnpike.

But where do you buy this entrance token? And where is the nearest on-ramp? Before you can finally get on-line, you need to get an "internet account." This involves renting a parking space from an "internet provider." These are companies that provide you (that is, your computer) with the instructions (a road map, if you will) to the superhighway. They also provide you with your personal parking spot and act as a link between you and the rest of the computer world. This can all be had for about \$10 a month. Some of the larger providers (the AT&T's of cyberspace) might already be familiar to you by name. There are Compuserve and Prodigy, as well as America On Line (The Big Three) which has recently launched a television commercial campaign. If you live in a large city, there may be some local providers who provide the Big Three with a little competition. In addition, many institutions of higher education also offer access to the computer network.

So you're on the "net" (short for the Internet, the world wide network which includes your own computer). Now what? There are three popular lanes of traffic that can take you directly to Belgium. The first involves the parking space that came with your internet account. This is your computer address. Instead of street names or avenues or boulevards, internet addresses are recognizable by the "@" symbol. My address for example is "hans@teleport.com". Typically preceding the "at" sign is some abbreviated version of your name. Following the symbol is the name of your internet provider. With this address you can send and receive electronic mail (e-mail). This is merely a letter typed on your computer word processor sent via your modem in the blink of an eye through the phone lines to another party with an e-mail address. The best thing is that there's no such thing as long distance. Most accounts allow you to send and receive an unlimited number of e-mails to any destination for one flat

fee. Do you know the e-mail address of somebody in Belgium? Drop them a line!

A second connection to Belgium is through "newsgroups." There are some 20,000 newsgroups devoted to just about any subject that one can imagine. Their names are often a series of words or abbreviations separated by dots which tell you something about the subject of the group (ex. "alt.religion.christian" or "soc.sports.tennis"). Participation in the newsgroups is more casual than you might think. It can be likened to a public bulletin board. Any person with a question or thought or an entire speech can post their verbiage to the appropriate group. people of similar interest peruse the bulletin boards and are sometimes inclined to respond. Sometimes their posted response receives a response, and all of a sudden, you have a discussion going. When you first look into the newsgroups, you will most likely be confronted with the entire list of groups.

You can go immediately to the **Belgian** newsgroup often by simply finding the "goto" command on your screen and supplying the group name "**soc.culture.belgium**". **When you** arrive at this group you may find articles discussing Belgian current events or simply some requests for information. Much of the correspondence is in English but you will also find discussion in French. There are even news articles in Flemish posted on a regular basis.

The final destination that you will want to seek out is called the "world-wide-web" (www). This is the newest, most exciting, and fastest growing highway on the net. For the most part, a "web site" archives information from groups or individuals. This may be text as well as pictures. Lately more and more people are including short excerpts of audio and video as well. Many organizations like magazines and other companies are taking advantage of this means of communication. New computer addresses (called "web pages" or "home pages") for individual web sites are appearing almost daily. The addresses are often long and cryptic. New web sites are often advertised in the newsgroups. Consider this recent advert for "Ultra," a Belgian music magazine. They offer Information at their home page,

<http://www.provinet.be/ultra/>

The best resource for interesting computer addresses (e-mail, newsgroup and world-wide-web) is your local computer store. There are volumes of yellow-pages on the market. And like the regular phone book, these are by necessity up-dated every year. The alternative is to simply log in and start exploring by yourself. If you like channel surfing, you'll love surfing the net!



The Oldest Citizen of Brussels, Belgium
"Manneken Pis"
(see article page 17)

LINCOLN - A few things I learned on the Wisconsin Belgian Ethnic Tour, all from my own car's tape player:



The Belgian immigrants known as Walloons who settled this sliver of a hamlet in Kewaunee County fashioned St. Peter Catholic Church here after one at home in Grandlez. They named alt their east west roads after birds and north-south roads after trees.

Interesting' It whetted the appetite for more Belgian lore, but where to next? East on Robin Lane or west on Martin Road, north on Tamarack or

south on Spruce? East, no north. No, west. South, that's it. That, I suppose, was a Belgian waffle.

I jest, of course, and probably will again later when I reveal what the people of Brussels call their offspring. But as tour narrator Jerry **Guth** noted, "These Walloons are always full of fun."

This area of northeastern Wisconsin used to be full of Walloons, and still is as much a touch of Belgium as you'll find in the States. There are towns here called Namur and Brussels, Rosiere and Misere, all settled in the mid-1800s by Belgians from- where else? — Namur and Brussels, Rosiere and Misere.

Flemish and French were their home land's official **languages**, but many of the Belgians who settled in Door, Kewaunee and Brown counties brought with them their distinctive Walloori tongue, a dialect of French . It still occasionally can be heard here but is steadily being erased by time, just as the terrible fire of 1871 erased most original Belgian buildings from the landscape.

Not all is lost, however. What remains on the byways and back roads - from bathtub Madonna's to roadside chapels, even to taverns that serve Belgian beer - is the focus of the Belgian tour, one of a number of ethnic trails that wind through Wisconsin. For the price of a \$10 cassette, you can take the trail at your leisure, from the comfort of your own car. The narrator is Guth, of Algoma, and he's helped by Alfred Vandertle, 85, also of Algoma, a historical treasure whose reminiscences of early Walloon life in Wisconsin have been recorded by museums in Madison and Washington, D.C.

THOSE WACKY WALLOONS

By Dennis Mccann

That's Alfred singing in Walloon as the tour starts in Casco. Belgian life in Wisconsin was rural life, so the roughly 75 mile tour begins on quiet country roads. You know you are on a quiet country road when the first "settlement" to come along is called Frog Station, "so named because in the warm spring when the frogs are mating the sound is beautiful."

From there the tour passes dairy farms, both current and forgotten, by more cheese factories that used to be than still are, by yard after yard graced with shrines to the Blessed Virgin.

There once were more than a dozen tiny chapels along country roads here, built so passers-by in need of inspiration or direction could pause for prayer at the drop of a knee. But time has taken its toll on them.

One of the tour stops is the Chapel of the Blessed Virgin, where in 1858 a girl returning from Mass some miles away reported meeting the mother of Jesus, who commanded her to spend her life helping children and to build a chapel on that spot.

On a more secular note is the tiny village of Tonet, where the story goes that one Lester Gillis - later "Baby Face" Nelson - played centerfield on the Tonet baseball team. Down the road a ways is the unassuming

farm where Nelson reportedly was raised for a few years, after getting into trouble in his native Chicago.

A few stops seem a bit of a stretch. The playing fields of Bay Shore Park in Kewaunee County are included because that was where the Green Bay Packers once trained in summer when Curley Lambeau was coach. The connection? Lambeau was a Belgian.

But later, as you travel from Rosiere to Brussels while Vandertle sings of harvest celebrations ("It's the coffee, it's the coffee that makes the women cackle . . .") you pass through the heart of Wisconsin's Belgian country.

If you want Belgian food or Belgian beer, if you just want to hear a bartender speak Belgian(?), the tape will tell you where to stop.

One more thing I learned: You might wonder why native Belgians would name a town Lincoln. As I mentioned, these settlers were from Grandlez, which in Walloon means "tall and homely." So they named their new home after their new president who was, yes, tall and homely.

Those Walloons were always full of fun. It's why the folks in Brussels called their offspring "kids." - What, you thought I'd say sprouts? -

From: Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Sunday, 10/15/95.

Submitted by Charlene Lorch



RONALD M. OVERDAHL
Lill De Jardin serves up a beer in her tavern in the village of Brussels.



MANNEKEN PIS DAY CELEBRATED AT BK¹ CLUB

from **MISHAWAKA Enterprise**, Oct 19, 95.

Submitted by August & Betty Inghels

What is the origin of Manneken Pis? - this famous statue of the little boy, standing at a Street corner not far from the Grand'Place in Brussels, Belgium. relieving himself in a very suggestive and natural manner

There are different stories on the subject. The first one tells that the young Duke Godfrey III of Brabant, aged six, had gone astray from his father's house and had been rambling about the streets of Brussels, that some servants were sent in search of him and found him at the exact spot where the fountain is today and in the same position in which he has since been depicted. A second story explains how a young boy saved the town by extinguishing a wick which an enemy had lit to set Brussels on fire. But the following seems to be the "true" story:

The young Duke Godfrey III of Brabant was only two year of age when his father died. Two of his vassals, Waiter of Malines and Gerard of Grimbergh, declared war to him. His Regents asked for help from Thierry of Alsace. The soldiers of the latter, and true friends of the young Duke numbered more than 6,000 men . They were being reviewed in the streets of Brussels when they asked to see the child for whom they were going to fight.

His mother brought him in her arms and showed him to the troops who cheered him heartily. Then the old Lord of Gaesbeek said: "Madam, if you wish us to be victorious, your son, the young Prince, should be present on the battlefield".-

The next day, notwithstanding his mother's fear, Godfrey ill in his cradle followed the troops . The battle took place at Ransbeek near Vilvorde; the cradle was suspended upon the branch of a young oak tree from which the standard of Brabant was unfurled.

The Duke's army was driven back four times, but it was never possible to push it farther than the cradle. Nevertheless, the battle seemed to be lost, when the soldiers perceived the child standing erect and fulfilling a natural duty of nature. Did they accept it as a sign of contempt at their cowardice or as proof that the child wished to brave the enemy? In any case it is known that the soldiers took courage anew and so won the battle.

In memory of this deed, they decided to erect a fountain called "Manneken-Pis" in their capital. Furthermore, the young oak was planted quite near the fountain and therefrom the street has its name: Rue du Chêne (Oak street).

More about Manneken Pis

There are more legends surrounding "the oldest citizen of Brussels", than the ones mentioned in the article above. One of them credits the act to a little boy sprinkling the sentries of the Spanish occupying forces, stationed below the windows of his parents' home.

Or the story goes also, that during a grand reception by the Burgomaster of Brussels and in front of all the invited dignitaries, the little son on this city father relieved himself at the corner of the Grand' Place.

Manneken-Pis is a surprisingly small statue for all the fuss it has stirred throughout history, standing barely two-foot tall. Its first statue was a stone carving dating from the 1400's. it apparently became very quickly a treasured Brussels' landmark , because in 1619 the Brussels city fathers commissioned a bronze replacement from Jérôme Duquesnoy the Elder. They built him a corner fountain shrine, and once a year he is supposed to pee beer or even wine, depending on the importance of the occasion (but don't quote me on this!)

Besides its mysterious origin, the statue has known quite a few documented historical adventures: it was first stolen by retreating British troops in 1647, but they didn't get any farther than Grimbergen/Grammont with their bounty. It was discovered there hidden in a bread delivery cart, and the inhabitants of Grimbergen hid the "little boy" until the British troops were gone.; they then proceeded to build him a shrine on their own main market place. But the inhabitants of Brussels wanted their little hero back and brought him home in triumph, allowing the Grimberger to have themselves a bronze copy made which is still to be seen today on their market place.

However, that was not the end of Manneken-Pis' kidnappings: the French tried to carry him off in 1747, but their intentions were

discovered before they could leave town. King Louis **XV** tried to make up his soldiers misconduct by offering the statue a full title of nobility plus a complete gold-embroidered brocade court costume, sword and feathered hat included! All the following occupying armies as well as visiting dignitaries have offered uniforms and costumes to this little "Bruxellois" He dons some of the costumes on special occasions and ceremonies. On September 3rd. you can see him dressed in the uniform of the Welsh Guards, who liberated Brussels on that day in 1944; or on October 27th dressed in an American sailor suit in honor of the United States Navy Day. Its complete wardrobe can be seen in the Museum of the City of Brussels, *Maison du Roi* , on the Grand'Place.

In 1817 an ex-convict stole and severely damaged the statue . Fortunately, the city was able to take molds of the recovered pieces, and so reconstruct the statue to its original form.

In 1956 the statue was bolted down and equipped with a burglar alarm after yet another kidnapping attempt. The last reported incident was a prank by students from Antwerpen: after severe and unexpected winter weather, the burglar alarm froze and the students were able to make off with Manneken Pis having proven their point, they returned the statue the following day, unharmed.

Another "historical fact": Philip the Good, Duke of Burgundy, ruler over the Low Countries from 1419 until 1467, who for one of his lavish banquets, had an effigy made of Manneken Pis in sugar, caught in the same act as its model, but ... with rose water. This as a center piece for the head table ... oh, those Burgunders!

Does anyone out there have another legend surrounding Brussels' Manneken Pis? We would love to hear from you! We will then publish a sequel: Manneken Pis revisited! - Leen.

¹ * BK: Broederen Kring (Brothers' Circle) - Belgian Club House in Mishawaka, IL. next to St. Bavo church. Besides a regular Belgian bar, complete with a "toog", Belgian beer and "droge worst", it also has a large baft room, a "liggende wip" or archery tower, and a rolle boHe court with 2 fields.

From & To From & To

From G. Van Hyfte to ALL: Several "Belgian" things have happened to me in the past two years. I'm passing-on a couple of items that may make it easier for someone else on their family research. For the first item, I obtained a copy of the passenger list of the April 1904 sailing of the "SS Montrose". My father and mother are on that list as well as a number of other Belgians. This list brought up several questions : at that time, my parents were a couple of 22 year old kids. The information given shows they were going to Winnipeg, Ontario, with an already assigned RR ticket number. For the next item: How did I obtain the passenger lists? The Canadian government has a booklet with all the information to research. It is entitled: Tracing Your Ancestors in Canada, Archives Nationales du Quebec, 1210 Avenue du Seminaire, Case Postale 10450, Sainte-Foy (Quebec), G1V4N1. **My question to all of you is:** how did a couple of twenty year old kids ever hear about Winnipeg as a destination? They probably heard about Canada, but Winnipeg? Also, they had a RR ticket for that destination. Was this some sort of recruiting for a particular job? Was it affiliated with a church group? Why were some of the other Belgians going to the same place? My mother was also pregnant during this voyage. They had a girl born in Winnipeg who passed away at a very young age. Her name was Debra or Deborah Van Hyfte. I am still looking for her records. Anybody got any answers? **Gaston Van Hyfte 1703 Kofa Ave. Parker, AZ 85344**

From the Editor: Other Belgian names on the passenger list mentioned above: Mr. & Mrs **Alex (Alois?) De Jean** with children John and Joris(?), going to Montreal. **Louis Fauchamps, Paul Haan, Pierre Feguenne, Joseph Beert, Th. Elewout** (listed as Canadian, but no doubt of Belgian origin), **Jules De Bruyn** all going to Winnipeg.

From Sylvère Van Daele: I now completed my research about the emigration to the United States from the villages: Lotenhulle and Aalter. *This is a formidable piece of research, Sylvère. We congratulate you on all your work, and thank you for sharing the results with The Belgian Researchers*

To Charlene Lorch: Thank you Charlene, for submitting the article from the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel I contacted Dennis McCann, and asked him for permission to reprint it in Laces. You will find it in this issue' - Let us know how you liked the trip he describes and whether it changed your mind about Brussels, WI.

You ask what your Belgian grandmother meant by calling you "Bébé" nothing more nor less than "Baby!", a very common endearment name from any grandmother!

From Albertine De Prost: I lived through WWII in Merksem, by Antwerpen. I was a child then, but I still remember my grandfather dying because of a shrapnel wound. After we were liberated from the German army, we still were bombed by V1's and V2's. One landed in my Aunt's and Uncle's backyard. They found my Aunt buried under the rubble because my baby-cousin was crying. This cousin still carries a scar on her face left from a wound that she sustained during this ordeal. I hope my grandchildren never have to be involved in a war. (Amen)

From Virginia L Basford - In going over some of my research that I had taken out of storage, I found a couple of newspaper articles that my proud grandpa had sent me. He had been interviewed as part of a school project when he was 88 years old. Because I lived in Florida, we kept in touch by mail and he was not happy that I lived there - he kept telling me to come to Wisconsin because "Florida was going to drop off into the ocean!" "As far as he was concerned, Wisconsin was God's country!" - *The spelling "Remi" of your grandfather's name, is the correct one!* - Thank you also for the articles!

To Mary Verslype: In name of all our members, we want to thank you for the donation of Henry's research library to our organization. This represents an inexhaustible source of information about the history of the Belgian immigration in the Midwest. Furthermore it gives prove of Henry's hours and hours of work invested in this research. If it is of any consolation to you, know that his work will not have been lost : we will treasure the Henry Verslype Library holdings. We also want to wish you courage and the strength needed to continue taking care of dear Henry. Alzheimer is a terrible illness. Reading some of the newspaper clippings and articles included in Henry's papers, we realize that 1995 marked your 65th anniversary. Congratulations to both of you.

To August Inghels: We want to thank you for all your help in the shipping of the invaluable research materials from Henry Verslype and refusing our participation in the costs. Although we would really like to reimburse you, Gust, we thank you for your dedication, your help and your generosity. Your help meant a lot to Mary also! Heel hartelijk bedankt!

QUERIES ... QUERIES

95.294 - KESTER William, b. in Arkansas 1833. Father's birthplace in Tennessee. Name could have been von **Kester**. The only connection with Belgium is the village of Kester In Brabant, SW. of Brussels. The family is Protestant, so it is possible that they came from Holland. Is anybody researching this name? **Gary Kester, 267 W. 94th street # 2 - New York, NY 10025-6936**

95.295 - FOBERT Victorine b. ca. 1842, probably in East Flanders. Married BONTINCK Romanus prior to 1880. Three children : Cesarina, Emile, Leonie. Trying to locate birthplace, dates of birth, marriage and death or other Fobert's. This is my maternal grandmother. **John H. Van Dorpe, 6720 W. Kerry Lane, Glendale, AZ 85308**

95.296 - HEMELSOEN - GHESQUIERE, Juliana (Julie) b. 25 August, 1852; d. 10 April, 1928. Married Alois Ghesquière (date?) They had 10 children and lived in Essen, Belgium. Some of these children emigrated to the United States and lived in Illinois; many stayed in Belgium. Would like names of parents and siblings, dates of birth, death , marriage and any information anyone may have or find for me. Margaret Anne Ghesquiere Kroeger 4518 Marguerite Street NE. Salem, Or. 97305-2064

95.297 - VAN HYFTE Debra / Deborah b. May or June 1904 in Winnipeg, Manitoba to Emlie and Rachel Van Hyfte. Died in 1904 or 1905. Looking for birth and death certificate Roman Catholic Church records. **Gaston Van Hyfte, 1703 Kota Ave. Parker, AZ 85344.**

PASSENGER LISTS prepared by Micheline GAUDETTE & Howard THOMAS

File: Emigrants 1868

Report: From Belgium

Names	From	Left Ship	Date	Arrival	Going to
BERCKENDEN or RERCKENDEN Fred 21 engineer		LO	American	NY	16 Jun 1868
CATEAUX Felix 35 merchant		LI	Scotia	NY	18 Nov 1868
CHANAN or CHAVAN Antoine 35 painter		LH	Cella	NY	17 Jul 1868
CHAVAN or CHANAN Antoine					NY
COSNET Francis 53 farmer		LI	James Fost	NY	9 Sep 1868
CROSSET Barth 50 weaver		LI	James Fost	NY	9 Sep 1868
DAYSTERS F, 41, importer		LIV	Jara	NY	29 Apr 1868
DE BRUCK Louis 57 brewer		LO	Cella	NY	14 Sep 1868
DE MEULDER Edouard 25 marblecutter		LO	Cella	NY	14 Sep 1868
DERKIME Martin 30 machinist		LI	James Fost	NY	9 Sep 1868
DERRIS Jean 52 weaver		LI	James Fost	NY	9 Sep 1868
DUCHATEAU Jean Baptiste WOUTERS Maria Theresia J J MT		Oud Heverlee	17 May	7 May 1868	
FATTAIR or SATTAIR Gervais 48 weaver		LI	James Fost	NY	9 Sep 1868
FAUX Richard, male 25 cigarmaker		LI	City of An	NY	20 Jul 1868
FINSIC Aaron 22 cigarmaker		LO	New World	NY	8 Nov 1868
FROMENT Jules 27		LO	William Pe	NY	5 Jun 1868
FROMENT Julie 35		LO	William Pe	NY	24 Nov 1868
GOLDFRIED Henri 42 weaver		LI	James Fost	NY	9 Sep 1868
HARTAG Phillip 19		LI	Scotia	NY	18 Nov 1868
HAY Frederich, 29	Brussels	LU	William Pe	NY	5 Jun 1868
HERMANN Pierre J. 42 machinist		LI	James Fost	NY	9 Sep 1868
HERVIN Virginie + 35 cook		LI	Scotia	NY	25 May 1868
KEI Francis 28 cabinetmaker		LI	James Fost	NY	9 Sep 1868
LE CROSSE Jean 30 weaver		LI	James Fost	NY	9 Sep 1868
LE VOOF Mart male 24 cigarmaker		LI	City of An	NY	20 Jul 1868
MOSELLI Leon J. 23 clerk		LU	Cella	NY	11 Nov 1868
PATREY Jean F 42 baker		LI	James Fost	NY	9 Sep 1868
PETERKIMM Pierre 29 weaver		LI	James Fost	NY	9 Sep 1868
POTTIER Charles 48 merchant, Harriet 41		LH	St. Lauren	NY	5 Nov 1868
PRAST Edouard 24 jeweller		LO	Cella	NY	14 Sep 1868
RAHAIX Mary 34, Cath 12, Elis, 9, Victoria 6 Marg 4 Va		GL	Europa	NY	21 Aug 1868
RERCKENDEN Fred see BERCKENDEN Fred					
SATTAIR see FATTAIR Gervais		LI	James Fost	NY	9 Sep 1868
SATTYS Heinrich 53 sailmaker		LI	James Fost	NY	9 Sep 1868
SCHEPPERS Charles 29 merchant		LH	Ville de P	NY	16 Jun 1868
SCHEPPERS Emile 32 merchant		LH	St. Lauren	NY	5 Nov 1868
SCHEPPERS Frederick 26 merchant		LH	Ville de P	NY	16 Jun 1868
SCHORN Gustave 24 inspector of mines		LI	China	NY	19 Aug 1868
SCHOUTCET Victor 30 farmer		LH	HARPSWELL	NY	22 Aug 1868
SIMONIS Nicholas 30 weaver		LI	James Fost	NY	9 Sep 1868
STAGE Jacques	Meux			15 Mar 1868	
TASQUIN Denis THIRION Marie Therese MF	Liernu			29 Apr 1868	
THIRION Marie Therese see TASQUIN Denis	Liernu			29 Apr 1868	
VAN BROECK Francis 37 cabinetmaker		LI	James Fost	NY	9 Sep 1868
VANDERWOORDE V, f. 26, nurse		LI	Jara	NY	29 Apr 1868
VANVLASSELAER Jean Francois VANHOOF Anna Maria; Oud Heverlee				15 Feb	5 Nov 1868
WELLANS Jules 26 merchant		LH	Ville de P	NY	16 Oct 1868
WOUTERS Maria Theresia see DUCHATEAU Jean Baptiste					

File: Emigrants 1869-70-71

Report: From Belgium

Names	From	Left Ship	Date	Arrival	Going to
BAUDHUIN Jean Jos. GILBERT Pauline AL VI MA MT DE	Meux		24 Sep 1869		
BIJYOT Emile 25 optician		LH Europe		NY 27 Mar 1869	NY
GILBERT Pauline see BAUDHUIN Jean					
MADELLAN Louis 38		GL Europa		NY 27 Mar 1869	
RENSON Nicholas 44 baker		LO Cella		NY 16 Jan 1869	NY
ALEXANDRE Jacques Francois	Meux		7 Jun 1870		
ALEXANDRE Joachim DESTREE M.Caroline	Meux		7 Jun 1870		
BAUDHUIN Denis Widower LATOUR MT, JO MJ JU HO	Meux		6 Aug 1870		
BAUDHUIN Jean Jos. JANQUART Josephine PR JO MA ER	Meux		6 Aug 1870		
BAUDHUIN Marcellin	Meux		21 Apr 1870		
BAUDHUIN Martin	Meux		21 Apr 1870		
BAUDHUIN Pierre	Meux		21 Apr 1870		
BOUCHONVILLE Jean Jos. LAMBERT Adele FR	Meux		6 Aug 1870		
BOURNONVILLE Augustine Julienne	Meux		16 Sep 1870		
BOURNONVILLE Hubert	Meux		16 Sep 1870		
BOURNONVILLE Isidore	Meux		16 Sep 1870		
BOURNONVILLE Joachim	Meux		16 Sep 1870		
BOURNONVILLE Marie	Meux		16 Sep 1870		
BOURNONVILLE Marie Therese	Meux		16 Sep 1870		
BOURNONVILLE Maximilien	Meux		16 Sep 1870		
FALQUE Joachim FANUEL Ferdinande MC MA AR MT	Meux		18 Mar 1870		
HERBIGNAT Alexis JANQUART Caroline JO RO JU EM JJ	Meux		11 Aug 1870		
JAUOQUET Jean Jos. MACAUX Marie Jo; NI HU MJ MJ JB	Meux		11 Aug 1870		
LAMBERT Ferdinand	Meux		6 Aug 1870		
LAMBERT Marie	Meux		6 Aug 1870		
LEDEBELLE Hubert NOEL Rosalie LO EM	Meux		4 Mar 1870		
NOEL AlexandreVANDELOIS Marie Josephe	Meux		4 Mar 1870		
RADELET Gustave Alphonse	Meux		21 Apr 1870		
THIRION Theodore MASSAUX Therese	Meux		11 Aug 1870		
VIRLEE Antoine BLANCBONNET Rachel AN	Meux		21 Apr 1870		
AUGUSTYNS Isabelle see VANDERLINDEN Pierre					
CHARLIER Lambert DELSAU Marie Antoinette JB SI MA AD A	Liernu		15 Sep 1871		
DECOSTER Marie Louise	Oud Heverlee, 10 Feb 1871		21 Apr 1871		
DELCORPS Jean Jos. MACAUX Marie Jos MJ JJ MJ ER CH	Meux		18 Mar 1871		
DEMULDER Isabelle see VANDENPLAS Henri					
DESTREE Francois DUBOIS Marie Therese	Meux		23 Jun 1871		
DUBOIS Francois Jos.	Meux		23 Jun 1871		
DUBOIS Jules	Meux		23 Jun 1871		
DUBOIS Victor	Meux		23 Jun 1871		
ENGELS Charles son of Jean Baptiste and DRAPPIER Angel	Oud Heverlee, 11 Mar 1871		20 Sep 1871		
GILLOT Francois Jos. NEUVILLE Ferdinande LE FL CE EU N	Enines		9 Jul 1871		
GOOSSENS Jean Francois VANDEZANDE Maria MJ MF G PH GJ; Oud Heverlee, 27 Sep 1871 - 21 Apr 1871					
LATOUR Melchior SARTON Marie Joseph LO AN FE CH SE FE; Mehaigne			1 Nov 1871		
LEDEBELLE Denis	Meux		16 Aug 1871		
LESSUISSE Felix	Mehaigne		Dec 1871		
POELS Marie Stephanie (dau of Pierre and VANERMEN Barb)	Oud Heverlee, 6 Oct 1871		21 Apr 1871		
PROCES Edouard LORENT Jeanne FE MA EU MF	Liernu		4 Aug 1871		
RONDOU Francois son of Louis and DEVROYE Marie Cath.	Oud Heverlee, 24 Apr 1871		21 Apr 1871		
SIMONS Michel VANDERHEYDEN Marie Elisabeth	Oud Heverlee, 16 Apr 1871		21 Apr 1871		
VANDENPLAS Henri DEMULDER Isabelle JA D	Oud Heverlee, St Jo		8 Jul 1871		
VANDERHEYDEN Marie Elisabeth see SIMONS Michel					
VANDERLINDEN Francois AUGUSTYNS Isabelle P PH JF JB	St Joris Weert		21 Apr 1871		
VANDEZANDE Andre Alphonse son of Pierre and DERWAE M.	Oud Heverlee, 19 Sep 1871		21 Apr 1871		
VANDEZANDE Maria see GOOSSENS Jean Francois					
WEERT Guillaume son of Francis and VONCKX Marie	Oud Heverlee, 26 Feb 1871		20 Sep 1871		